

**CITY OF FITCHBURG
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2007

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tom Starr, Chairman, David Brooks, Phil Chalifoux, John Koutonen, Harry Karis, Kevin Sanders (associate member)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Mike O'Hara

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Starr called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Veteran's Room, First Floor, City Hall.

MISCELLANEOUS

Draft Environmental Impact Report available for Mass Highway's Route 2 improvements in the Mt. Elam Rd./Palmer Rd. area.

City has rec'd \$5,000 donation from Unitil towards Putt's Pond account as previously discussed. The total is now \$15K.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

**Notice of Intent - City of Fitchburg DPW, Shea Brook - stream maintenance
(continued from 11-27-07)**

nothing new to report. No site meeting yet w/ Leom.
Hearing continued to 1-29-08.

Notice of Intent - City of Fitchburg DPW, Nashua River at Fitchburg Airport - shoal removal & bank stabilization

Joe Jordan, Asst. Commissioner - Wastewater, presented proposal
Earthen berm at edge of airport property contains 52-inch main sewer trunkline to WWTP. Recently noticed that berm is eroding. Don't want to compromise integrity of sewer line. Also, shoal w/ vegetation in river is forcing flow into berm & furthering erosion, need to remove.
Joe discussed plans to repair river bank & prevent further erosion. In extreme conditions water level gets close to top of berm.

Q: how much rip-rap planned for riverbank?

Joe J: about halfway up slope.

In the DEP file # letter, DEP suggested contacting Riverways Program for technical assistance on how to reduce damage to river bank.

John K. concerned that the erosion was noticed by someone at airport, not DPW who should be checking over sewer lines.

John & Kevin: suggest using filter fabric when backfilling, further up the slope.

Timeline? Joe J: ASAP - wants to get work done before spring snowmelt.

John: is there a temp. fix ?

Kevin: wants Engineering & Wastewater to come up w/ an engineering narrative, schedule of work, etc.

Site visit set up for Sat. Jan. 5, 2008 at 8:00 a.m.

Wastewater will come up w/ a preliminary narrative of work by then.

Hearing continued to 1-29-08.

Notice of Intent - City of Fitchburg DPW, headworks upgrade - East Wastewater Treatment Plant, Lanides Lane

Joe Jordan, Wastewater, Chuck Caron, wetlands consultant & Jeff Pinnette of Wright-Pierce present Mr. Pinnette gave overview of project. Construction of new 4,000 grit removal building & upgraded screening facilities. City is required to do so by DEP. Most of work is in existing impervious area. 2,300 sq. ft. of new impervious area.

Improved stormwater management. Planning on dry wells off additional impervious area

Chuck: all buffer zone work - 33,000 sq. ft.

Floodplain: no compensatory storage is planned -- new construction takes up minimal amount of increase in flood storage area. Site is in FEMA's mapped floodplain.

Chuck: is questionable that 100-year flood elevation is really that high.

Will send copy of NOI to Tim Smith.

Site visit set up 1-5-08 (after airport site visit).

Hearing continued to 1-29-07.

Notice of Intent - Red Bird Construction, 0 Shea Street (between 621 & 625 Shea St.)

(continued from 11-27-07)

Hearing had been continued from 11-27 due to lack of quorum.

Two abutters on Shea St. present.

Motion made & seconded to approve OOC. Vote 5-0 to in favor

Special condition: add subdrain to the 2-foot wide grass swale.

Proposed Rules & Regulations under Chapter 178, Local Wetlands Protection Ordinance

Local Wetlands Ordinance not through third reading yet (scheduled for 1-10-08) so hearing postponed to January 29 meeting. Kevin will make minor corrections and will send via email.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Certificate of Compliance

issued for Fitchburg State College, Eliot Field work, Pearl Hill Road (#155-498)

Send reminder to 455 Princeton Rd. - add reference to OOC to the Master Deed, & cc: realtor since unit is for sale.

West & Sheldon streets - check erosion controls

Motion made & seconded to adjourn. Vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 7:11 p.m.

Next meeting: January 29, 2008